

Dear Mayors, Fire District Chairs, City Managers and other EMS System Stakeholders:

As some of you are aware, Lt. Scott Sanford with Palm Harbor Fire Rescue and Capt. Jim Millican with Lealman Fire Rescue have provided a Fire Transport Proposal to the County as part of the County's EMS outreach process. County staff met with Lt. Sanford and Capt. Millican three times since July 14, 2011 to gain a better understanding of their proposal.

Attached is 1) County Staff's updated analysis of the proposal and 2) a broader cost analysis of the current system, the County proposal and both submitted transport proposals. These documents were distributed to the County Commission on September 28, 2011. County staff received a rebuttal to the original analysis after the package was sent to the Commission. The rebuttal has been fully reviewed and does not alter staff's position that the Proposal would:

- Dramatically increase costs.
- Require the hiring of hundreds of new government employees with higher salary, benefit and pension costs.
- Cost taxpayers an additional \$25 million annually over the County's proposal and \$14 million annually over the current EMS system with no guaranteed performance standards.

The County Administrator continues to be open to new thoughts, ideas and proposals but, they must be financially and operationally viable.

Please forward this to the other elected officials in your jurisdictions. If you have any questions regarding the County's analysis, please feel free to call me at 464-3485. Thank you for your help with this very complex and vital issue to our community.

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